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McGill Daily **Culture**

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April 3 — 10, 1997

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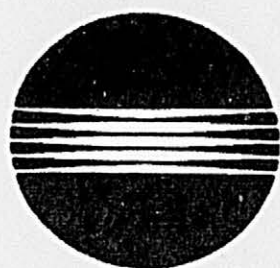
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McGill told to beware of (black) lurkers

by Idella Sturino

Security memo charged with racism

Several students and faculty members were alarmed last week when a memo sent out by the manager of McGill's Security Services surfaced, containing what has been termed "racist innuendo."

Security Services Manager Steve Paquin circulated the memo to McGill's building directors on February 25 to notify them of two recent thefts to McGill buildings. After describing the nature of the thefts, the memo stated that two black males were seen in the areas where the incidents occurred and went on to urge that "any suspicious individual(s) that may be seen lurking around" should be reported to McGill's Security Office or the Montréal police.

The memo sparked outrage and several letters of complaint written by students and faculty, who charged Paquin's statements with racist underpinnings. One faculty member described the memo as unbelievable, writing, "where have you been for the past 20 years?" Likewise, a student wrote to Paquin saying that his memo effectively places all black men seen in McGill buildings at risk of being targeted.

Verda Cook, the political coordinator for McGill's Black Students' Network, echoed this fear about the memo's implications. "It makes every black male a suspect," she said.

Cook also said that she wasn't surprised by the memo, citing a "long tradition" in Montréal of black men being indiscriminately singled out as criminal suspects, often being picked up by police even when they bear little resemblance to the real perpetrators.

Professor Sam Noumoff of McGill's department of Political Science brought the memo to the attention of the administration after

learning about it from an angered faculty member. In a letter written to Victoria Lees, McGill's secretary general, Noumoff described Paquin's memo as containing a "reprehensible and unacceptable request that lurkers [read black males] should be reported to Security.... Given the history of racism, the ability of the white community to distinguish a black male from a lurking black male is open to severe question."

When asked why he chose the wording he did, Paquin maintained that he was providing only the description of the men that he was given by witnesses, who were not able to give a clear estimate of the height, weight or other physical traits of the men.

Paquin admitted, however, that the witnesses also noticed that the men appeared to be "well-built" and that they were seen carrying black sports bags. He said that he omitted this information because it would not have been useful, adding that the men could be wearing lighter clothes the next time.

Stressing that he was simply trying to enlist the help of the university population, Paquin commented: "People said I was prejudiced against all black people because I was pointing a finger at all blacks. But I wasn't trying to do that." He added that his main goal was to notify the university community that there was an "active" group of thieves around.

But Cook expressed doubt that a description as vague as "two black men" could be helpful. "A lack of description like that is taking a huge leap, it's too broad," she said.

"A letter like that could lead to a lot of innocent people being reported to Security," she added.

Paquin received between 15 and

20 letters of complaint regarding the racist implications of his memo, which reached many faculty offices and professors since it was initially sent out. Paquin stands by his wording, explaining that, had the two men been white, he would have done the same thing. However, he conceded that if people "felt victimized by the words I would say it was a poor choice of words." Paquin also said that he will be issuing a letter of apology and explanation to the building directors who received his initial memo.

But Noumoff, who sits on the McGill Senate, would like to see more than simply an apology from Security Services. He has asked that the item be placed on the agenda for the next Senate meeting, and expects to hear of a university apology to the entire community for "the insensitivity of the memorandum." Noumoff would also like to see a sensitivity training program instituted for all Security Services employees, not only for race issues, but for gender and other issues as well.

According to Noumoff, the fact that the memo was actually sent out reflects a lack of sensitivity and review process to prevent such occurrences.

"I'm wondering what, if any, system exists within the university to ensure that more than one person looks at issues which should have been recognized as an issue which might require a second look," he said.

Paquin said that, although Vice Principal Planning and Resources Dr. François Tavenas, who oversees the McGill Security Services, did not see the memo before it was sent out, the two had discussed notifying the community about the thefts. Dr. Tavenas was out of his office last week and unavailable for comment.



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Events

Thursday, April 3

McGill African Students' Society presents Africa Week Gala Night. Dance, fashion show, poetry, play, party with Butcher T. Shatner Ballroom, 18h, \$8.

McGill Department of History presents Professor David Blackburn from Harvard University speaking on "Maripingen: Writing About Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Bismarck's Germany." 14h, Leacock 808.

LBGTQM Queer Support and Referral Line introductory meeting for anybody interested in volunteering next year. 18h, Shatner, 425.

Info: Peter or Emily 398 6822.

Monday, April 7

Earth Save hosts a lecture by Dr. Andy Nicholson, director of the Physician's Committee for Responsible Medicine, speaking on the benefits of a plant-based diet. 19h, Otto Maass, 112, Admission: free.

McGill Department of Anthropology presents Dr. Igor Krupnic, of the Smithsonian Institution, speaking on "Indigenous Knowledge in Modern Context: Native Siberian Legacy in Transition," 12h30-14h, Leacock 738. Info: Sherry 398-4300.

Thursday, April 10

Refugee Research Project and Living Testimonies sponsor a colloquium entitled "Passionate Pragmatism: Memory, Expectations and Survival among Ethiopian Somali Returnees." Guest speaker: Christina Zarowsky. 2020 University, Suite 2401, 12h30.

Saturday, April 12

Youth Challenge International is holding a Charity Auction at Chapters Bookstore (Stanley & Ste. Catherine O). Items to be auctioned include a plane ticket, show tickets and more. 14h. Info: 937 7469.

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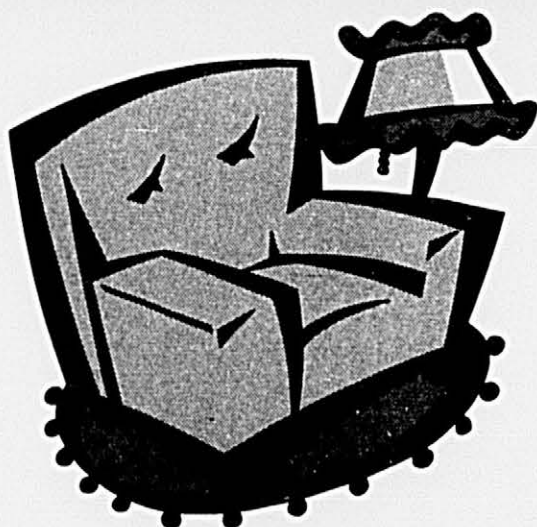
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The Andy Statman Quartet Between Heaven and Earth: Music of the Jewish Mystics (Shanachie/Koch)

CD REVIEWS

A few years ago, I heard of a group called Masada whose members said that they were trying to achieve an increased awareness of their Judaism by playing the music of free jazz virtuoso Ornette Coleman. At the time, I couldn't understand how these two things could be almost absurdly connected. But when I was exposed to some of Masada's music, I was quite impressed by the ethereal, almost mystical, quality of the music.

Much the same is true of *Between Heaven & Earth*, the latest recording by klezmer/bluegrass/jazz/experimental musician Andy Statman. Statman too attempts to reach a "higher truth," both musically and spiritually, by evoking the style of John Coltrane while playing the "Jewish urban folk music" known as klezmer.

The results are indeed quite impressive. Statman on clarinet creates a hauntingly emotional presence throughout the entire CD, and the musical variation achieved on the album is tremendous. Up-tempo songs like "Purim" attain an almost swinglike quality, strongly evoking the jazz form. Other songs, like "If not for..." feature complex arrangements, with bass, mandolin, percussion, piano and clarinet.

The parallel between the African-American jazz idiom and the Jewish klezmer tradition seems less absurd as one listens to the virtuosic Statman play. No matter how up-tempo, or 'happy' a song may sound, there always seems to be a current of pain under the surface of both traditions; jazz approaches this through its use of blue notes, whereas klezmer does so through its melodic constructions. Statman combines both these forms and exposes a superb depth of feeling. It doesn't hurt that he's backed by such musicians as banjo player Bela Fleck and mandolinist David Grisman.

Statman seems to be part of the ongoing progressive klezmer revival along with Masada's John Zorn and Jon Krakower of Klezmer Madness. Like his peers, Statman is redefining the boundaries between jazz, klezmer and the avant-garde.

Gil Shochat

Glen Hall The Book of the Heart (Koch Jazz)

Glenn Hall's style of jazz playing is considered by many critics as postmodern. What that means musically....well, I plead ignorance, but it sounds sophisticated doesn't it? In any event, this reissue originally released in 1979, is an album that certainly evokes a mood or a state of mind that is somehow mystical.

Like Hall himself, *The Book of the Heart* straddles the line between free jazz and contemporary classical music (eg John Cage, Toru Takemitsu). This musical duality is mirrored in Hall's own career having released records with both the great jazz arranger Gil Evans and the avant-garde percussion group Nexus (which by the way, is based in Toronto).

Musically *The Book of the Heart* is incredibly varied. The title track for example contains a 6/4 and 7/4 tempo which makes

the piece incredibly complex. Other pieces like "Kitab Al Qualb"

and "For Marianne" are 'free pieces' which retain a short melody in their beginnings and have their players subsequently go into a free jazz improvisation. This improvisation allows the musician to take the piece anywhere they want 'to go' while not being bound by the harmonic or chord constraints of the piece. They do this as Glenn Hall puts it by going outside any "preconceived forms" and reaching a "visceral ethereal truth".

The overall sound that somehow seems to link all these pieces is "cool" not unlike the spirit of early Miles Davis. In any case, Hall plays pieces by such great jazz masters as Wayne Shorter and Sonny Rollins with a great subtlety and understatement. Unfortunately, however, Hall has faded from the Canadian jazz scene in recent years having released his last album over ten years ago and apparently having given up touring.

Gil Shochat



Magical Morphing Music

by Mike Cullen

Funderwear! is the result of "a whole bunch of names written on a napkin, conceived at 35,000 feet," says drummer Stuart Paap with a smile that could mean he's lying or really telling the truth. But his mate follows with "you can't spell *Funderwear!* without fun;" a comment that you can't help but smile at. The story about the quirky name is the tip of the iceberg about a decidedly unconventional band - one that defies classification because they're different every time you see them.

"We've never played anything exactly the same," says band contact man and bassist Eric Stein, "we each challenge ourselves to play [songs] a little differently."

"You can miss a note and it's gone in a moment, nobody notices" says drummer Stuart Paap their preference for the flexibility of improvisation in live performances.

For them, Jazz is "definitely a prototype we'd like to emulate,"

according to Paap.

"If you try to repeat everything the same, you make mistakes. But if you live for the moment, you can't make a mistake. You can't be afraid of making [that] mistake and twist it into something else," says lead vocalist Josh Engels.

The guys from *Funderwear!* would rather mess up a song and come up with something new and different than play the same songs the same way night in and night out.

"I think that's what our appeal is," says Stein about their habit of changing performances and songs on the fly.

But the changing nature of their performances is not something that most music aficionados might be used to; a fact that the members of *Funderwear!* are acutely aware of. However, the band is undeterred by the tendency of listeners to grab onto music that is more clearly defined or more static to be precise. The

Women at work

Report says Government cuts hurt working women more than men

By Rachel Furey

OTTAWA (CUP) — Government cutbacks are hurting working women more than their male counterparts, says a recent report.

The report states that cuts at all levels of government will hurt women more than men because more women work in areas being cut, indicates Women's Work, a Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) report released earlier this month.

Two thirds of the public sector's unionized workforce and 80 per cent of health care workers are women. The federal government has cut \$ 7 billion over three years from payments to the provinces for health, education and social programs.

"Where women are most are the areas that are being cutback," said Sue Genge, national representative for the women's and human rights department of the CLC.

Genge criticized the federal government by saying the Liberals have failed to keep their election promise to create jobs.

"The Liberals campaigned on jobs and we're seeing an elimination of jobs for women," she said.

Joanne Fleming, a spokesperson for the Prime Minister's Office, says the government's focus is on creating jobs for young people.

"The focus is on youth employment. I haven't seen any comments from the Prime Minister about jobs for women," she said.

According to Statistics Canada

data, the number of full-time women employed in Canada decreased by 44,000 from January to February, while full-time jobs for men increased by 23,000 for the same time period.

Furthermore, the report states that government cuts are likely to hurt young working women more than older women. While the unemployment rate for women in 1995 was 9.2 per cent, women under 24 faced an unemployment rate of 15.6 per cent.

"If [the cuts] continue, women will have a harder time finding employment. Young women need more than ever to make their voices heard," said Jennifer Story, women's representative for the Canadian Federation of Students.

The report cites the lack of adequate daycare as a reason many women are unable to work.

Genge and Story both plan to lobby the Liberals to implement the national child care policy it promised during the last federal election.

"The promise of a national child care policy needs to be fulfilled," said Genge. "If [the government] creates child care, then more women can move into full time jobs."

Fleming said that the government hadn't implemented a child care program because it could not get provincial governments to agree on how to share the costs of the program.

Story added that Canadian

women need better access to postsecondary education if they want to secure places in the workforce.

"One of the things the report points out is that women in their middle years need access to the [postsecondary education] system. The system is not friendly to mature students," said Story.

The CLC report comes on the heels of a recent federal report that concluded that government cuts hurt women's equality.

A Status of Women report released last November found that economic and social restructuring across Canada, combined with federal cuts to social programs, threaten gains made by women. according to the Status of Women report released last November. The report came as a result of government consultations made with over 400 women's groups and individuals last year.

"The drive to cut the deficit is being done under the guise that decreased tax and debt equals more stable work, but we're seeing that's not the case," added Story.

The CLC report noted that people belonging to other equity seeking groups also earn less. Members of racial minority groups earn 12 per cent less than average, workers with disabilities earn 5.8 per cent less and Aboriginal workers earn 13.3 per cent less.



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Funderwear! challenges listeners to hear new sounds

former is the part of music that *Funderwear!* mates find most interesting and worthy of exploration - evolving constantly as individual musicians and as a band.

About listeners, Stein echoes the slight exasperation of his band mates; "I think there's a lack of exploration among music listeners. Everyone's into defining themselves."

Stein doesn't mean this to be an insult to others but rather a wake up call to listeners.

Whether people listen to it is another matter altogether. But Montreal has historically been a haven for good live bands that eschewed mainstream pigeonholing, so

Funderwear!'s music and message may not fall on deaf ears.

But as most artists tend to acknowledge, live performance isn't always a "feel good" experience.

"It's a lot of hit and miss; when it's good you think Montreal is the best," says Sax man Ray Murray, "on bad nights you think it's hell."

However, the band says it does its best to adapt to circumstances, which is the most that any group of musi-

cians can hope to do.

"If the crowd is dancing, then we'll keep 'em dancing. If they're just sitting down drinking beers then we'll be more mellow. Our

music will reflect that," says Stein. It is this adaptive spirit that *Funderwear!* is most in tune with as the group lights up at moments of lively conversation during the interview and is dead silent as I jot my notes for this article. To the band this is what interactivity of performance is all about: reacting and creating - and participation.

Trying to get people out to their shows is one of the few things *Funderwear!* has in common with most other bands, though.

"We want to make things as cheap as possible so people can come out," says Stein about their low-cover policy for their shows.

Stein ends off with a challenge and not a plea however, "Don't have expectations 'cause we're original." Oh, and "you can't spell *Funderwear!* without..."

Funderwear! play *Vol de nuit*, 14 Prince Arthur East on May 1. Times and tickets prices to be determined.



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Last Monday, students at Ontario's University of Windsor became this year's 10th group to occupy administrators' offices.

Demanding more of a say in how their university deals with government imposed budget cuts and tuition ceilings, the students asked "the University of Windsor President [to] declare a Moratorium on tuition fee increases for the 1997-98 academic year in order that opportunity be provided for all members of the University community to have full discussion on alternatives . . . [and] vote by means of a referendum, on their options."

The students also demanded "that the dispute be resolved between CUPE 1001 and the administration on the basis that the University back off from its demand that the food and service workers (among the lowest paid people who work at the University) take concessions in wages and seniority rights."

— Zachary Schwartz

Occupation Timeline

February 10

University of Toronto
York University

February 13

University of Guelph

February 19

Carleton University

February 26

Queen's University

March 5

McMaster University

March 12

Laurentian University

March 21

University of British Columbia
University of Victoria (occupation of Ministry of Education)

March 24

University of Windsor

April 2

McGill University

Administration evicted

Inside the McGill occupation

by Zachary Schwartz and Shane Thomas

Principal Shapiro's Secretary has been replaced by a security guard.

Just before 8h30 on April 2, 18 students took control of the fifth floor of the James Administration Building. They planned to occupy the office of Principal Bernard Shapiro at least until April 3.

"We have tried the democratic process, and we got nowhere, so we're using another means to promote and protect the education system we see slipping away," said occupier Mike Toye in a phone interview.

Security agents said Steve Paquin, manager of McGill's Security Services, had ordered them to cut off all communication with the protesters. They turned other students away at the front door, and attempted to prevent students from talking or delivering food to the occupiers through open windows.

Despite the administration's attempts to cut them off, occupiers kept in contact with students and news outlets like CBC Newsworld by fax, cellular phone, and by throwing computer disks from the fifth story window.

Security also confiscated the private property of one of the occupiers, and used it to lock them inside the building.

Little contact

Even though only occupiers and security were present on the fifth floor, calls to Shapiro's office were still routed through his

secretary. Questions about the occupation, however, were answered with "You'll have to phone the University Relations Office." At 23h, the University Relations Office's phone line was still busy.

Shortly after the occupation, McGill VP Academic Bill Chan and Dean of Students Rosalie Jukier met with the students and outlined the range of penalties that the University could impose on them.

Jukier added that the administration had no intention of negotiating as long as students were occupying the office.

Speaking from the occupation, Chris Carter relayed, "Principal Shapiro said that he doesn't want to negotiate with us while we are occupying his office, but he doesn't want to negotiate with us when we are not occupying his office."

But the students stood their ground and presented their demands, which included the abolition of the proposed new administrative and additional session fees, and a moratorium on McGill's efforts to privatize international students.

"Those are the three major budgetary proposals that brought students to this new level, but it's a long continuous process of chipping away at a public system," said Toye, citing private MBA and dentistry programs — which McGill chooses to call self-funded — as examples of McGill "going around the government".

The protesters want the administration to consult with students and to defend and protect public education, as opposed to moving away from a publicly funded system.

"We are trying to convince them [the administration] to adopt our position on public education. . . ." said Toye. "We want him [Shapiro] to make adequate public funding a priority. If he put half as much energy into advocating for adequate public funding as he is for privatization, students would be his allies, not occupying his office."

"Increased representation on key decision-making bodies such as the Audit and Finance Committee and the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors are the only way to ensure that our voices are not only listened to, but heard in the future," said Mera Thompson, another occupier.

Real change?

Later, students occupying the office were joined by almost 200 protesters who assembled outside the James Administration Building as a show of support and solidarity for their actions and demands.

The march was only part of an ongoing effort to precipitate debate on the future of McGill, which began with a silent protest at the most recent Board of Governors meeting. The BoG ultimately allowed protesters to stay for the preliminary budget debate. All student requests for delaying the fee implementation

CEGEPs strike again

Provincial budget sparks new wave of protests

by Keren Markuze

Montreal (CUP) — After a semester of relative calm, Montréal area CEGEPs began a new round of protests last week in conjunction with the release of the 1997-98 provincial budget.

Busloads of angry students demonstrated in front of the National Assembly in Québec City last Tuesday, followed on Wednesday by strikes at several Montréal colleges.

The day-long strikes were organized by student unions fed up with the government's continual refusal to acknowledge the concerns and positions of post-secondary students, and its failure to respond to ongoing letter and fax campaigns, which include proposals to the Ministry of Education for the future of higher education in Québec.

"Most of the cuts are going to be implemented at the level of delivery of services; this will hurt students," explained Elizabeth Krakow, secretary of the executive council at Dawson College who helped organize the strike. "We were trying to work quietly with the government, but they ignored us."

According to Robert Mance, president of the Vanier Student Union, the new budget will see the college's \$14 million operating grant cut in half, with the college being asked to make it up by taking money from students.

In addition, the budget calls for teachers to take additional pay cuts and accept early retirement packages. This is all part of a wide range of cuts to post-secondary funding, amounting to a total of \$700 million.

But while Vanier students, who also staged a strike last Wednes-

day, have the support of their administration, Dawson students are struggling with an administration which constantly complies with government demands.

"The administration says 'this is the information the government gives us, let's just do it.'" explained one Dawson professor. "They are not willing to play a part in applying pressure on the government."

For their part, Dawson staff and faculty support the action of the students.

"It's the same fight. Teachers have the same interest in maintaining quality education," said economics professor Fred Jones, who stood in protest with the students. "We will lose good teachers who don't have seniority. We will be working harder, and we'll have less time to work with students individually. The college will not be as well looked after," he added, referring to some of the repercussions of the budget cuts.

Jones believes it was the administration's influence which led strike organizers to go with a soft-picket line, and only at one of the college's many entrances. And although the Faculty Association canceled all remaining classes, the college remained open throughout the day.

"We need alliances between teachers and support staff to change these kinds of neo-liberal policies which only benefit large companies and high income earners," says Jones, who has been teaching at Dawson for 23 years.

CEGEPs intend to continue their letter writing campaign and hope their efforts will see some immediate results.

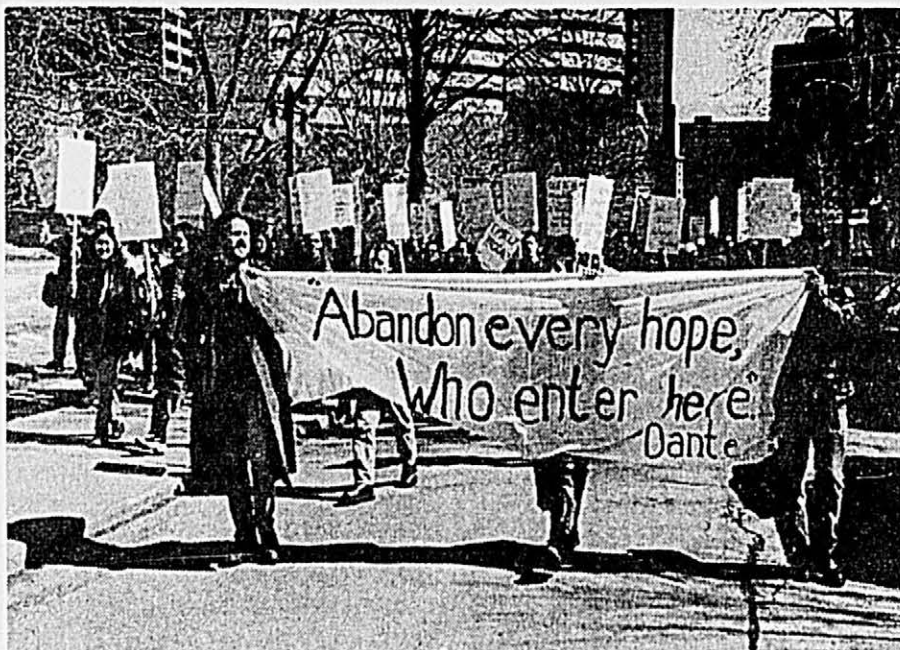
"It's not too late," said Krakow. "The budget is still being debated."

were ignored.

"If real change is going to come, it's going to have to come through Senate," said Toye, who has spoken with many professors who support the students' concerns. "The next step is to mobilize the faculty."

Meanwhile, just behind the James Building, McGill will be officially unveiling the newly constructed M. H. Wong Building. Attending will be many of McGill's prominent donors, whom the administration may want to shield from students' criticisms of the University.

"I believe McGill is extremely concerned with its reputation," said Toye. "I believe the occupation has done an excellent job of exposing the administration's agenda, which is not in the larger public's interest. . . . Only that kind of public pressure can influence the administration. . . . We will continue the battle with the McGill administration in the court of public opinion."



McGILL SEES CANADA'S ELEVENTH OCCUPATION

BC students take a stand

Wave of student occupations hits west coast

by Sharon Bennett

VICTORIA (CUP) Echoing the tactics of student activists in Ontario, Eight University of Victoria students have staged an impromptu overnight occupation of the deputy Minister of Education's office to protest a proposed 310 per cent tuition increase for international students at the University of British Columbia.

The demonstration began at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 21, with over 20 students storming the office. Once inside, activists took over two desks and began phoning media outlets around Victoria and sending out press releases by e-mail.

Deputy Minister Don Avison was in session at the legislature but assistant Deputy Minister Shell Harvey met with three of the protesters to hear their demands.

UVic student leaders expressed their outrage about the UBC tuition increase, as well as their concerns about the mounting funding pressures at UVic.

"Our position is that there shouldn't be any differential fees for international students because what happens is only the wealthiest students from other nations are able to attend," said UVic student councilor Leigh Phillips. "This flies in the face of accessibility, which this government is supposed to be in favour of."

Tuition not frozen

"It's not the position of the provincial government to get into commenting on the decisions of the boards," Harvey told protesters. "But there's two things I would note. First, the percentage increases that are reported at UBC certainly appear extremely high."

"Second point is, the absolute level, however, probably is right in about the national average," said Harvey. "The B.C. fees were the lowest in the nation by quite a dramatic amount, apart from Québec."

Phillips also expressed concern that the UVic administration would, like UBC, try some sideways moves to slip out the tuition freeze.

"Our own university, to get around the tuition freeze, has tried to increase ancillary fees," Phillips said. "They're looking to introduce an Athletics and Rec user fee, they have increased class sizes in English and Biology, and now Arts and Science as a faculty is going to be cut nine per cent in each department."

"This is unacceptable; our education is suffering," Phillips said.

Harvey agreed that ancillary fees were not to be used as substitutes for tuition fees, and that the education ministry's guidelines on this point were quite clear and specific.

After several of the angry UVic students met with assistant Deputy Minister Harvey, eight of the protesters decided to continue the occupation overnight in solidarity with the UBC occupation.

Harvey made it clear that if the protesters chose to stay, they risked arrest and would not have access to phone over the weekend. However, ministry officials opted to hire security guards to watch the protesters overnight, warning them they had to leave by noon on Saturday.

UBC occupied for five days

Unlike the Victoria protesters, who brought no provisions for an overnight stay, the 25 students who marched into UBC President David Strangway's office on March 20 were equipped with sleeping bags, cooking facilities and food. Ten of those protesters occupied Strangway's office for five days.

The UBC Graduate Student Society said students were protesting against a recent 310 per cent increase in tuition fees for new international graduate students and a 200 per cent increase for returning grad students.

They also oppose new technology and ath-

letics fees that they say goes against the provincial government's tuition freeze.

"If the provincial government allows these fees at UBC, then they are defaulting on their tuition freeze" said Kevin Dwyer, president of the Graduate Student Society. "Everyone should have access to a university education. Not just the wealthy."

"Your administration's decision to increase international students tuition fees, or so-called differential fees, by 300 per cent as well as the implementation of ancillary fees and technology fees are a blatant breach of the province's directive to freeze tuition fees," wrote Tom Arnold of the Simon Fraser University Graduate Issues Committee in a letter of support to the UBC students.

The UBC protesters demanded that tuition increases for international students be revoked and that all new ancillary fees and increases be revoked. They also demanded that a binding student referendum be held on all such fees in the future. Both the UBC and UVic protesters demanded that all protesters receive amnesty from legal or academic discipline.

UBC's Board of Governors reacted to the protest by agreeing to hold a binding student referendum on the new technology, athletics and ancillary fees.

The UBC occupation ended after UBC's faculty association wrote a letter fully endorsing the demands of the occupiers, and a visiting professor donated his salary for the entire term to their cause.

"We're not interested solely in confrontation, but in moving forward towards our goals," said occupier James Pond.

"We are leaving the office to engage with faculty and students to raise the issues to the next level."

Additional reporting by Niki Paill.

by Andrea Mason and
Sonia Verma

Student opposition to inaccessible education spilled out of the locked and heavily guarded doors of the James Administration building yesterday. Two hundred students converged in solidarity with the group of nearly 20 occupying Principal Bernard Shapiro's office.

The demonstration began at the Roddick Gates, progressed up campus and wound through Leacock and the Arts building.

"Apathetic students stared at us blankly as they scurried to their classes," commented Micheal Langley, who was disappointed that more students did not join the march. The 200 students who did attend, however, were effective in voicing their dissent as the protest culminated outside the administration building.

Student opposition focused on proposed fee changes, including a 300 per cent increase for graduate students, an across-the-board \$255 administrative fee and the privatization of international student fees.

The fee increases have been printed in the 1997/98 Academic Calendar even though the Board of Governors (BoG) has yet to officially approve the changes.

According to Anna Kruzynski, vp university affairs of the Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS), this amounts to a tacit endorsement of the new fees and indicates that the BoG has no intention of discussing the proposals with students. Also, the administration has failed to specify how the additional funds from the administrative fees will be used.

"McGill is setting a dangerous precedent," commented Brenda Chipman, a U3 Latin American Studies student. "Without consulting students, or letting us know how our money will be spent, the administration has placed the burden of cost squarely on our shoulders."

Students are concerned that the increase will radically alter the composition of the McGill community, making it an elitist institution by denying access to many.

Karen Bardsley, an international graduate student, described the changes at McGill since her arrival in the fall of 1994 to the assembled crowd.

"Decisions have been made which compromise the intellectual quality of the university," she declared. "I am no longer wanted for my difference — I am wanted for my dollar. As an international student, I have been privatized and isolated."

Catherine Degnen, an anthropology PhD student, agrees. "There is no way at this point that I can finish my studies here. It's really frustrating."

Students also expressed their anger over the administration's refusal to allow an open consultation process.

"This is an extreme measure," said graduate student Atiqur Rahman, referring to the occupation, "but Shapiro doesn't seem to listen to anyone."

who's listening? students seek voice with administration

Safety or Homophobia?

SSMU-sponsored open forum on Canadian Red Cross fails to satisfy

by Jean Liao

The controversy surrounding the Canadian Red Cross' (CRC) blood donor questionnaire first arose at McGill when the CRC withdrew its involvement from the SSMU-organized blood drive. Openly gay SSMU President Chris Carter issued a press release stating that he would attempt to donate blood at a McGill blood donor clinic, with the aim of bringing attention to the questionnaire.

The main point of contention for students was question 15, which eliminates all men that answer "yes" to the question of whether a potential male donor has had sex even once with another male since 1977.

The legitimacy of the (CRC) questionnaire for blood donation was called into question by students last Thursday at a panel discussion called "Safety or Homophobia?"

"The main purpose of this open forum was to provide an opportunity for an open discussion on the key issues surrounding the Red Cross donor questionnaire and a free exchange of different viewpoints and expertise," said Brock MacDonald, who organized the event along with Karen Hurley and Laura Merson.

Armand de Mestral, a member of the Red Cross Board of Directors, approached SSMU vp university affairs Don McGowan with the idea of having an open dialogue in November. SSMU subsequently determined that if the Red Cross were to be invited back, vp Internal Mark Feldman should organize an open forum in conjunction with the blood drive.

"The original intention of the Forum was to acknowledge that, in inviting the Red Cross back for second semester, there should be some dialogue between McGill students and the Red Cross about the organization's decision to cancel its October Blood Drive," declared Hurley.

However, due to a lack of publicity surrounding the event, less than 40 students attended. No announcements of the open forum were published in any of McGill's student newspapers. According to Hurley, "it was critical that this event be advertised in campus newspapers." After Hurley noted the lack of advertising, Feldman told her that he had missed the McGill Tribune's deadline.

Although there was still time to place an advertisement in the Daily's Thursday issue, Hurley was told by Feldman that McGowan, who was the only executive with money left in his budget for advertising, refused to pay for any advertisement if it was to run in the Daily.

Furthermore, the forum left many students dissatisfied, as CRC representatives seemed unresponsive to student suggestions.

"It was extremely frustrating in general," said LGBTM administrator Hannah Rogers, one of the students who attended. "The Red Cross people themselves are obviously not interested in changing their policy."

While the CRC's official statement claims that their questionnaire is "continuously being adapted to reflect advances in medical and scientific knowledge," panelists revealed that, in reality, little can be done to alter the wording of the questionnaire.

According to Dr. Blair Whittemore, former National Director of the CRC transfusion Service in Ottawa, the donor questionnaire "is mandated by the regulatory agencies, such as the FDA [the US Food and Drugs Administration]." Consequently, Whittemore contended that it is very difficult to make changes.

However, it is prejudices such as the one blatantly manifested in the CRC's question 15 that should be addressed as it reflects the still pervasive ignorance and homophobia which plague society. The question perpetuates the misconception that sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS are 'gay diseases'.

One possible modification to the question was suggested by Rogers.

"Since the window period of HIV detection is 16 days, couldn't the questionnaire be changed to 'a male having had sex with another male in the last three months', as opposed to 'since 1977'," she asked.

Dr. Paul Gully, a specialist at Health Canada's Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, responded.

"That's a good question," he said, agreeing that making such a change would be an option worth investigating.

Several students suggested other possible modifications to the questionnaire. One idea was to change the focus from groups of individuals to the behavior by changing the wording from "having sex with another male," to "having unprotected sex."

But panelist Dr. Francine DeCarrie, Eastern Canada's Director for the CRC, claimed that such a change would further limit the number of people eligible to give blood, thereby compromising Canada's already low blood supply.

According to Darrell Tan, political coordinator of LBGTM, DeCarrie's attitude was "dismissive, unresponsive and disinterested." Tan felt that she was "not receptive to the suggestions given by the audience. She did not seem prepared to take action."

Many students took issue with a claim made by another one of the panelists, McGill law professor Armand de Mestral.

"The donation of blood is not a universal right, but a privilege," he said, pointing out that many groups, including gay men, are excluded in the questionnaire.

But for Tan, de Mestral's argument misses the point.

"Potential blood donors are not concerned with the possession of such a privilege, but more with the ramifications of the questionnaire's stigmatization of gay and bisexual men," Tan said during a question period following the panelists' remarks.

Organizer, Brock MacDonald said that he was happy about how the forum was conducted.

"Not only were the key issues addressed, there were also many productive answers to students questions," he said.

For many others, however, the forum did not meet expectations.

"The message I got was that the Red Cross feels it has no power to change things," Rogers said.

Montréal Sight or Sore?

City to unveil new public sculpture - La Ville Imaginaire

by Mike Cullen

The City of Montréal is preparing to implant a new sculpture into the fabric of the city this summer, a work by Portuguese artist João Charters de Almeida. The granite sculpture will stand a staggering 19 metres tall and is to be placed in the Parc des Îles on the Montréal island of St. Hélène.

But how will a new work of art on such a monumental scale be perceived as a new fixture of the Montréal skyline? Will it be a revered landmark like the Mont Royal cross, hated like the "Big O" (Olympic Stadium), engender mixed feelings like Place Ville Marie, or fulfill the vision of the artist?

The answer to those questions probably won't become evident, however, until after the sculpture is unveiled this fall after a spring and summer-long installation.

"Public sculpture is dangerous territory. It will elicit lots of positive and negative comments," says Professor Derek Drummond of McGill's school of Architecture.

Gauging the sculpture's success as a public work of art after its installation may be difficult for city officials and individual Montrealers alike.

For Drummond, it is a simple matter of public reaction. "If it garners comments, it's a success. If it doesn't, it's not."

The Montréal Office de la Planification made what seemed to be a simple decision to place it in the company of other sculptures in the Parc des Îles, according to communications official Odile Chevrolat.

There it is expected to fulfill the intent

of its creator, to be a reflection of imaginary space. "La question et la réponse a la relation la plus mystérieuse qui condamne l'homme a sa temporalité. L'espace et le temps." This roughly translates as: "Both the question and the answer to man's mysterious relationship to time and space."

In response to this, the planning department of the City of Montréal logically chose to place the work in an environment close to other sculptures, says Chevrolat.

But there are further links to time and space, says cultural development spokesperson Francine Lord. La Ville Imaginaire is in a donation of the metro Service of Lisbon, Portugal - the site of the 1998 world exposition. The site chosen for the work on le Parc de Îles was the former site for Montréal's own world exposition of 1967. This is the symbolic link that made

the site choice appropriate to the city planning department.

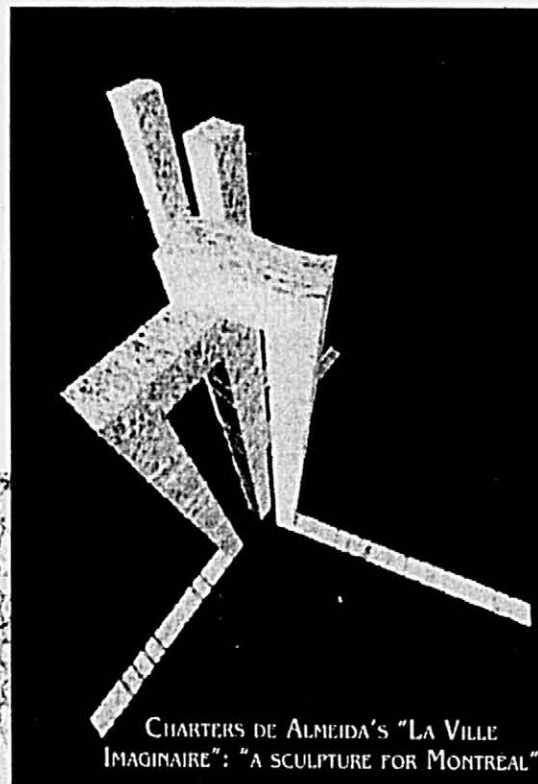
Unfortunately, only the top of the sculpture is likely to be visible above the treeline

from the island of Montréal proper. This limitation will make close-up views from the Parc des Îles and the adjacent La Ronde parking lot more impressive than the screened views from afar.

This last detail is regrettable since "it should be viewed from a highway or from a distance," according to Drummond. He concedes that even the best urban sculpture is "very problematic"

and that the city is probably doing the right thing with the placement of La Ville Imaginaire due to the sheer height, breadth and scale of it.

La Ville Imaginaire is due to be unveiled the week of September 8-15, 1997.



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April 3-9, 1997 The McGill Daily Culture

11

Un funk enjoué, une *funktion* sérieuse

NADINE BALADI

Les petits groupes rock qui rivalisent avec le punk et le jazz, tentant une percée sur la scène musicale montréalaise, vont devoir affronter leur plus nouveau compétiteur : le funk. C'est ce style qu'a adopté *Funktion*, un groupe qui ne tardera pas de se faire connaître par les plus grands amateurs de funk de la ville.

Formé il y a moins d'un an, le groupe se voit déjà offrir des concerts dans les boîtes les plus populaires de la métropole, et ce, de façon régulière. Impressionnant puisqu'il ne possédait ni de cassette démo (jusqu'à tout récemment), ni d'agent qui se chargerait du booking et marketing. *Funktion* qui est un vétéran du Barouf, sur St-

Denis, se dirigera dans quelques jours, vers le Vol de Nuit, sur Prince-Arthur. Il attend une réponse du bar Jello, et, si tout est pour le mieux dans le meilleur des mondes possibles, il déclenchera un contrat avec Le Café Campus.

Départ fulgurant, mais peu surprenant. Les musiciens de *Funktion* sont des mordus, des virtuoses, gradués du programme de musique du Cégep St-Laurent. Le groupe est composé de Marie-Josée Frigon, la saxophoniste ténor, Geneviève Lapointe, saxophoniste alto, Michel Benoit, batteur, Sébastien Dufour, guitariste et Frédéric Grenier, bassiste. Seul le charismatique chanteur, Eric

Haroun, fait exception : il étudie en bio à l'UQAM mais s'en défend en rationalisant un rapport entre la musique et la science : « les deux disciplines sont fondées sur l'essai et l'erreur ! »

Mais ce n'est sûrement pas l'erreur qui a permis au style funk de se populariser si rapidement et universellement.

Le funk est décrit comme un genre de « disco évolué ». Le chanteur explique que la musique est extrêmement vivante, la basse y est prépondérante, les musiciens

sont énergétiques, et la foule ne peut que danser ! Certains groupes, comme Alliance Ethnik, Jamiroquai, Prince, Kool and the Gang et même Stevie Wonder, n'appartiennent pas de façon catégorique au funk, mais leur groove illustre bien celui de

Funktion

Le groupe possède aujourd'hui un vaste répertoire d'une vingtaine de chansons, toutes des cover. Néanmoins, il va sans dire que l'équipe souhaite produire ses propres pièces au plus tôt. D'après le chanteur, cela ne s'est pas déjà fait parce qu'« il s'agissait d'abord d'établir une bonne base technique. Maintenant que cette dernière est acquise, on peut s'approprier à composer nous-mêmes... et à six, les compositions risquent d'être riches et les styles variés ».

Même si ce groupe est typiquement québécois, même si tous ses membres sont francophones, les compositions seraient probablement écrites dans la langue des Beatles. Eric Haroun avoue que le français, bien que plus poétique, est moins facile d'accès, moins versatile et moins répandu que ne l'est l'anglais. « C'est l'excuse du paresseux, ajoute le chanteur, mais dans l'éventualité de la production d'un disque, il ne faudrait surtout pas se fermer les portes d'un marché déjà trop hermétique. »

Souhaitons-leur donc de se retrouver sur les présentoirs des marchands de disques très bientôt afin que tout le monde puisse découvrir ce groupe sympathique, sans prétentions qui semble faire de la musique pour le simple plaisir de la musique.



Radio McGill

Vous écouterez CKUT

LOÏC BERNARD

Voilà près de 30 ans que CKUT diffuse à partir du campus mcgillois des émissions dites « alternative » suivant un mandat donnant voix aux diverses communautés et groupes ethniques qui n'en trouvent pas dans la masse médiatique populaire. De la centaine d'émissions diffusées sur leurs ondes, une dizaine sont purement francophones et rajoute à la grande diversité de CKUT.

« Les francophones commencent de plus en plus à s'impliquer à la station », explique Christophe Bergeron, représentant des francophones au comité de programmation de CKUT. Et malgré un manque de publicité et de présence sur le campus mcgillois, la station accueille de plus en plus d'étudiants de McGill.

Les émissions francophones de CKUT prennent une place importante dans la grille horaire de la station grâce à un « nouveau dynamisme de la part des francophones » affirme M. Bergeron.

Malheureusement CKUT n'est pas reconnue pour ces émissions francophones.

« Les émissions francophones de CKUT n'ont pas le même genre de suivi que celles des autres stations francophones à Montréal », explique Christophe Bergeron. « On écoute les émissions francophones par ce qu'on écoute CKUT et non l'inverse » rajoute ce dernier. Certaines émissions

commencent en revanche à avoir un auditoire régulé, comme *Samedi midi*, étant programmée pour et par la communauté haïtienne et *Entre parenthèse*, une émission d'information qui ressort de part la qualité de ses reportages.

CKUT permet également aux

maternelle », conclut M. Bergeron.

L'image de la radio de McGill ne se fait pas assez présente sur le campus mcgillois pour que ces derniers se rendent compte des possibilités qu'ils ont à participer aux monde des médias de McGill. Par manque de fonds, CKUT s'est vue restreindre la publicité de sa propre campagne de financement qui débute aujourd'hui pour ne terminer que le 13 avril prochain. Les 150 000\$ dollars que les étudiants de McGill offrent chaque année à CKUT ne sont donc pas suffisant pour faire marcher une institution qui pourtant fait parti de la scène médiatique montréalaise depuis près de 30 ans et qui malgré tout parviendra à conserver son statut de radio alternative et toute la pertinence que cela constitue.

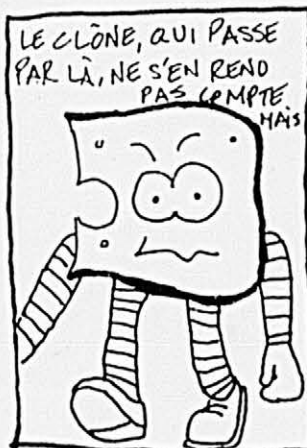


MONTREAL
RADIO MCGILL

francophones de McGill de faire les premiers pas à la radio étudiante. « Certains étudiants ne se sentent pas à l'aise dans une langue seconde et donc préfèrent faire des émissions dans leur langue



SCÉNARIO PAR
MARL-ANDRÉ
BERNIER



CE SCÉNARIO EST UNE IDÉE PLATTE DE MARL-ANDRÉ BERNIER. PLUS PLATTE QUE ÇA TU ÉCUTES LA TÉLÉSÉRIE DE FABIENNE LAROCHE, VIRGINIE. POUR QUI TU TE PRENDS CRISSE, ROMAIN GABRIEL?



Les Herbes rouges

Rouge comme l'Herbe

GENEVIÈVE FORTIN

Épice ou commerce de marijuana, filière du parti communiste ou nouvelle tendance de haute couture, les Herbes rouges ne ressemblent à rien de tout cela. Il s'agit d'une petite maison d'édition québécoise logée au 3575 du boulevard St-Laurent.

Les Herbes rouges sont nées, en 1968, d'une revue du même nom, dont le but était de publier de la poésie. En 1978, la publication se transforme en maison d'édition dont les activités se situent dans le domaine de la littérature générale. « Les Herbes rouges ont été fondées à la fin des années soixante-dix pour des raisons pratiques, explique Monsieur Hébert, de la maison d'édition. Nous voulions l'opportunité de publier plus de vingt pages dans un format attrayant. Ouvrir une maison d'édition, c'était la possibilité de publier un ouvrage d'environ deux cents pages ».

Au cours de cette phase de transformation, toutefois, les éditeurs s'engagent sur une autre voie. « Pour les compagnies de notre taille, il est important, pour parvenir à survivre, de trouver un créneau qui ne soit pas encore trop exploité par les géants de l'édition. Dans cette optique, les petites maisons d'édition se spécialisent ainsi souvent dans un genre littéraire particulier », explique Monsieur Hébert.

Les Herbes rouges ont décidé de miser sur « l'auteur », c'est-à-dire que les directeurs de la maison

d'édition publient maintenant l'oeuvre complète d'un auteur, peu importe les styles qu'il désire aborder. Si, à l'origine, Les Herbes rouges ne s'intéressaient qu'à la poésie, la compagnie publie dorénavant en moyenne, une vingtaine d'ouvrages par année, incluant aussi bien des romans, des recueils de poèmes que des essais divers.

Cette stratégie a amené la maison d'édition, par une continuelle recherche de nouveaux talents, à devenir, aujourd'hui, un acteur artistique d'envergure sur la scène montréalaise. Les éditeurs participent, en effet, grandement à l'éclosion d'artistes proposant une vision, une approche ou une démarche différente. Parmi les talents qui auraient pu ainsi rester cachés indéfiniment sous une pile de dossiers poussiéreux, les éditions Les Herbes rouges ont participé à la découverte ou à la naissance d'auteurs, aussi connus aujourd'hui que Roger Des Roches, Normand de Bellefeuille et Lucien Francoeur. Là où la plupart des grandes maisons d'édition choisissent les manuscrits en fonction de leur rentabilité, cette petite compagnie cherche avant tout l'authenticité et l'originalité. Quitte à prendre des risques. Là où les grandes maisons sont plus conservatrices et cherchent la sécurité, les Herbes rouges n'hésitent pas à plonger les deux pieds dans l'inconnu. « Nous publions toujours de la poésie, car

la rentabilité et les sentiers battus ne font pas partie de nos critères de sélection. »

Les 300 titres publiés jusqu'à maintenant par la maison sont répartis en huit collections ayant des noms aussi évocateurs que « Plaques sensibles », collection dédiée à la photographie, « Enthousiasme », qui présente des rétrospectives d'auteurs et « Les Yeux fertiles » concentrée sur le cinéma et la vidéo.

Les Herbes rouges diffuse ses publications au Québec évidemment, mais aussi dans les communautés francophones de l'Ontario et du Nouveau-Brunswick. La Librairie du Québec à Paris est responsable, quant à elle, de la distribution des ouvrages de l'éditeur montréalais, à l'étranger. « Notre succès, reconnaît Monsieur Hébert, tient beaucoup à la qualité de nos parutions. Nous cherchons avant tout à publier des ouvrages qui sortent de l'ordinaire. Être surpris, voilà ce que nous recherchons pour nos lecteurs ».

Les Herbes rouges, c'est le rouge passion de la découverte. Parce que la littérature est un art en constante évolution, et parce que le talent peut se présenter sous plusieurs formes, il est bon d'avoir des Herbes rouges pour mettre le feu aux préjugés.

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McGill Daily

FRANÇAIS

Et bien voilà nos derniers articles de la session d'hiver

1997. La rédaction du Daily français vous souhaite un très bel été en espérant que vous serez là, cher lecteur, pour nous lire et avec un peu de chance nous

aider dans la rédaction hebdomadaire de ce cher journal. Ayez bien en tête que le Daily français est toujours à la recherche de journalistes, correcteurs

ou correctrices, metteurs en page et photographes et

qu'aucune expérience n'est requise pour participer à la rédaction et la production de ce journal. Pensez-y...et peut-être à bientôt.

QPIRG AUDITOR'S REPORT

Dina Lauvick
Chartered Accountant

ACTION REPORT

THE DIRECTORS OF
QUEBEC PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP - MC GILL INC.

I have audited the balance sheet of QUEBEC PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP - MC GILL INC. as at August 31, 1996 and the statement of revenue and expenses and surplus for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at August 31, 1996 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Dina Lauvick
Chartered Accountant

February 23, 1997

2 ALLIANCE CANADA QUEBEC INC. 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 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